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October 20, 2011

Concerned Citizens of Martinsburg NY Post Office PO Box Martinsburg, NY 13404

> Ms. Michelle Krul Central NY East P.O. Operations Manager 100 Pitcher St. Utica, NY 13504

Concerning Docket # A2011-77 Dated 9/21/2011

Dear Ms. Krul:

We are again still petitioning against the closure of our local Post Office in Martinsburg, NY 13404.

- A. No consideration was given to the cost of decommissioning and removing the Post Office from the village of Martinsburg, NY. This added cost will further negate the "proposed" savings.
- B. We would like the Post Office to consider "the cluster box" arrangement that is already in place in the present PO building. This will give us a retention of the Martinsburg name and zip code, prevent us from setting up individual rural boxes, save us from 6-7 mile round trip to the Lowville Post Office and also keep from the hassle for everyone of hundreds of address changes. This is being done in other Northern NY communities.
- C. For stamp purchases, a machine could be installed inside and monitored by the one lone rural carrier that will deliver. Also, Saturday delivery could be eliminated The "cluster box" arrangement can be served by a "temp" from Lowville or a rural carrier and stamps could also be left in boxes etc. Many of our seniors do not have computers to purchase via the web and still do the majority of their bill paying etc. the old fashioned way via the Post Office. By being in one location it will save time and money for the Post Office by eliminating 86 individual stops at diverse locations. The Post Office admits it would have to increase costs to service 86 separate locations!
- D. We would welcome a meeting with local or regional PO officials to discuss these items face to face as the May meeting was during the day time and we do have boxholders that work daily.
- E. The town of Martinsburg, NY was once the county seat and has had a Post Office for 70 plus years. The townspeople should not have to suffer loss of services because the Post Office is losing money... the savings that were calculated for closing our facility is just a pittance compared to the overall debt the Post Office has. Also, it's our tax payers that are paying the salaries of the people trying to take our services away.

- F. The fact that the P.O. used in the arguments to justify the closing are not in agreement with the local community. Establishing new PO boxes in the dead of winter is not a good idea. Traveling to Lowville Post Office is out of the question for many of our senior citizens and changing addresses and losing the Martinsburg, NY name is unacceptable to a small close knit community such as ours.
- G. We urge you to please reconsider and keep our Post Office open even if it's only part time. Can there not be some kind of arrangement to do this and break even dollar wise??

Thank you for your attention and consideration in addressing our concerns. We all look forward to hearing from you.

Citizens of Martinsburg NY PO Box 173 Martinsburg, NY 13404

Cc: Diane Purvines-Lowville, NY Post Office Andrea Tacconi – Congressman Bill Owens Office Mr. Ken Richardson – US Post Office Appeal Committee Brian Shephardson- Manager- Post Office Operations